

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/579,275**
Response dated January 16, 2004
Reply to OA of **October 23, 2003**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A component selection control system comprising a plurality of signal output components for outputting AV signals including audio signals and/or video signals, at least one signal input component for receiving the AV signal, and a signal processing control unit having connected thereto the signal output components and the signal input component, the signal processing control unit being operable to process the AV signal delivered from desired one of the signal output components as required for sound and/or image reproduction and to feed the AV signal delivered from the desired signal output component to the signal input component, the component selection control system being characterized in that:

each of the signal output components has a separate and independent on-off switch provided on a signal output line for delivering the AV signal to the signal processing control unit therethrough, the signal processing control unit having a common input terminal for receiving the AV signal from the desired signal output component, the signal output lines of the signal output components being connected to one another at a point connected to the common input terminal of the signal processing control unit, the on-off switches being controllable independently for opening or closing to select one signal output component for feeding its AV signal to the signal processing control unit.

Claim 2 (original): A component selection control system according to claim 1 wherein the signal processing control unit has a common output terminal for delivering the AV signal to the signal input component, and the common output terminal is connected to a signal input line of the signal input component.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A component selection control system comprising a plurality of signal output components for outputting AV signals including audio signals and/or video signals, a plurality of signal input components for receiving the AV signal, and a signal processing control unit having connected thereto the signal output components and the signal input components, the signal processing control unit being operable to process the AV signal delivered from desired one of the signal output components as required for audio and/or video reproduction and to feed the AV signal delivered from the desired signal output component to desired one or more of the signal input components, the component selection control system being characterized in that:

each of the signal output components has a separate and independent on-off switch provided on a signal output line for delivering the AV signal to the signal processing control unit therethrough, each of the signal input components having an on-off switch provided on a signal input line for receiving the AV signal from the signal processing control unit therethrough, the signal processing control unit having a common input terminal for receiving the AV signal from the desired signal output component and a common output terminal for delivering the AV signal to the desired signal

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input component, the signal output lines of the signal output components being connected to one another at a point connected to the common input terminal of the signal processing control unit, the signal input lines of the signal input components being connected to one another at a point connected to the common output terminal of the signal processing control unit, the on-off switches being controllable for opening or closing to select one signal output component for feeding its AV signal to the signal processing control unit and to select one or more of the signal input components for receiving the AV signal from the signal processing control unit, wherein when more than one signal input component is selected then more than one on-off switch is turned on.

Claim 4 (original): A component selection control system according to claim 3 wherein the AV signal to be delivered from the signal output component and fed to the signal input component is an audio signal, and the signal processing control unit comprises an amplifier circuit for amplifying the audio signal received by the common input terminal and feeding the resulting signal to a subsequent speaker, and a signal feed line for feeding therethrough the audio signal received by the common input terminal.

Claim 5 (original): A component selection control system according to claim 3 wherein each of the signal output components and the signal input components has a control circuit for controlling the on-off switch thereof for opening or closing, and the control circuit prepares a control

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signal for the on-off switch in response to a command from a control circuit included in the signal processing control unit.